

E-News Summer 2007

A Free Electronic Newsletter from the LDA Halton

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to someone who would be interested!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

E-News provides a forum for information, news and opinions relevant to the field of learning disabilities. As an organization, we do not in any sense endorse any particular programs, treatments, approaches or opinions mentioned in our E-News. However, we do endorse your right to know about them.

Every effort is made to ensure that the links we have provided connect at the time of publishing. However, in the event that a link does not work copy the link into your browser and connect to the web.

News From Halton Chapter

Staff Updates

It is with great sadness that we announce that Stephanie Etherington, Executive Director of LDAH will be leaving our agency. We know how much she helped many of our members through tough situations and how grateful we are to have had her assistance. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

As of July 13, 2007, Tracy Wouters, our program coordinator, will also be moving on to new endeavours. We also wish her well.

Summer Hours at the Resource Centre

The resource centre will be closed over the summer. Parents who need assistance can contact LDAO at (416) 929-4311 ask to speak to Diane Wagner.

New LDA Halton Donors

Our thanks to **Dr. Steven Chin**, an internationally expert on Dyslexia and Mathematics and Dyscalculia for donating his book 'What To Do When You Can't Learn The Times Tables ' and his CD "What To Do When You Can't Learn The Times Tables (Version 3)" We will use these resources in our upcoming mathematics remediation program.

Dr. Chin is the co-author of '*Mathematics for Dyslexics, including Dyscalculia*' (2007) 3rd Edition. For more information on other publications by Dr. Chin go to - [Dr. S. Chinn](#)

Dearcroft Montessori School in Oakville made a generous donation of \$500.00 to the LDAH. Our special thanks, to Sheena Pufek and the students and staff for their fundraising efforts on our behalf.

You Too Can Make A Difference To Those With Learning Disabilities

The LDAH is a registered charitable organization that accepts donations from corporations, foundations, service clubs and individuals. Currently the organization does not receive any sustaining funds from either government or United Way. You can make sure that support and services are available to those in need.

Individuals can use our on line donation service, to support us. If you are a United Way Supporter a donation can be made to us by designating your funds directly to the Learning Disabilities Association

of Halton Inc. Charitable Registration Number 11901 0387 RR0001. Charitable receipts will be issued for all donations over \$10.00.

For more details and our donation form go to ldahalton.ca [Donation Page](#)

To make your tax-deductible donation by mail, please send a cheque payable to Learning Disabilities Association of Halton to:

LDA Halton
560 Guelph Line
Burlington, Ontario L7R 3M4

Orton Gillingham Tutoring Program: Our tutoring program finished on May 31st and we would like to thank our teachers, parents and of course the students for all their hard work! All the students have made very good progress in their skills during the 7 months.

As of June 5th, Afshan Parvaiz will be leaving Learning Disabilities to join her husband in Dubai for a year. We will all miss Afshan and wish her much happiness in her new home

Summer Programs for Children with Learning Disabilities and/or AD(H)D

Keyboarding Classes (FULL): July 3-13 – 3 classes available 9:30-10:30 (8-10yrs), 10:45-11:45 (11-15yrs) or 12:30-1:30 (11-15yrs). Classes run daily for 9 days.

A fall program is being planned. Call to register. 905-333-1977 or email info@ldahalton.ca

Volunteers Needed

We are **urgently** looking for the following volunteer positions: **Board members**, Bingo Volunteers, Fundraising committee members (help build a fund development plan or plan a fundraising event). Please email cover letter and CV to ldahalton@on.aibn.com.

News From Around the World

Creating an Independent Future for Your Adult Child with LD

Welcome to LD Talk, the Web's only online discussion devoted to topics of interest to the learning disabilities community. My name is Dr. Sheldon Horowitz, and I am the director of professional services at the National Center for Learning Disabilities. Today's LD Talk topic is, "Creating an Independent Future for Your Adult Child with LD," with special guest, Anne Ford.

Lessons Learned: An Excerpt from *On Their Own*

In a poignant passage in her new book, Anne Ford reflects on the lifelong truths of raising a child with LD

Children of the Code; New Videos

More American children suffer long-term life-harm from issues related to reading than from parental abuse(1), accidents, and all other childhood diseases and disorders *combined*. In purely economic terms, reading related difficulties cost our nation more than the war on terrorism, crime, and drugs *combined*.

[WE HAVE A PROBLEM! - 13 SEGMENTS](#)

To view these videos you will need Flash 8 (available on the website) and a high-speed Internet connection.

[Genetic Roots of Manic Depression Revealed](#)

By Roger Highfield, Science Editor

May 10, 2007

The genetic roots of bipolar disorder – manic depression - have been revealed by the first scan of the entire human genetic code, revealing a new target for treatments.

Bipolar disorder affects one person in every 100 inducing mood changes from extremes of depression to irritation, elation and mania.

However, the likelihood of developing the disorder, which usually occurs in young adults, depends in part on the combined, small effects of variations in many different genes in the brain, none of which is powerful enough to cause the disease by itself, a new study shows.

[New Evidence Links E-Numbers to Hyperactivity](#)

By Graeme Paton and Adam Stones

May 10, 2007

Parents were told yesterday to avoid artificial colours commonly found in sweets and soft drinks amid growing fears over their effect on children's behaviour.

New research backed by the Government is believed to have established a fresh link between the additives and hyperactivity, restlessness and tantrums.

[Learn About Working Memory Training for ADHD](#)

Working memory refers to the ability to hold information in one's mind for subsequent use and is a cognitive skills that is important for a variety of learning related tasks.

The use of working memory training for individuals with ADHD is based on several interrelated findings:

1. A number of studies have documented that individuals with ADHD show significant deficits in working memory;
2. Accumulating research evidence that working memory is a cognitive skill that can be improved with practice; and,
3. Improvements in working memory functioning have been shown to be associated with meaningful declines in ADHD symptoms and enhanced functioning for many individuals with ADHD.

Cogmed - a new sponsor of Attention Research Update - is a Swedish company that has offered working memory training for several years in Europe. Cogmed is now introducing this intervention in the US thru a growing network of carefully selected clinics.

To request this information, just go to www.helpforadd.com/cogmedinfo.htm

Source: [Attention Research Update](#), May 8, 2007

Community Services

Sheridan College Transition Program “Steps 2007 “

Sheridan College is hosting a four-day summer program exclusively for students with learning disabilities. If you will be attending Sheridan College in September and have a documented specific learning disability this FREE program may be for you.

During the four days you will meet other students, experience campus life, discover on campus resources, explore your learning style and experiment with technology. Meals and social events are included.

DATES:

ONLY 20 SPOTS AVAILABLE. REGISTER EARLY!

Trafalgar Campus
July 30 – August 3, 2007
(905) 845-9430 ext. 2530

Davis Campus
July 23 – July 27, 2007-05-06
(905) 459-7533 ext. 5160

To download a registration form, go to [Registration Form](#)

Halton Child and Youth Services Announces Name Change <http://www.hcys.ca/>
May 8th, 2007

Halton Child and Youth Services announced today that it is changing its name to Reach Out Centre for Kids or ROCK. The change, announced during National Children’s Mental Health Week, comes after a strategic planning and consultation process conducted by the agency.

Kidspeak 2007 Summer Programs: Summer programs are intensive language programs for children entering Senior Kindergarten, Grade 1 or Grade 2 with significant difficulties in expressive language, articulation and/or early literacy. For more information contact: kidspeak07@yahoo.ca or phone 905-336-8537. Program is run at Lorne Skuce Public School in Oakville.

On-line to Success Summer Transition Program at Ryerson University: A preparation-for-transition program for students with LDs who are planning or hoping to attend any University or College in Ontario, and are currently in grade 11 or 12. Two days together on campus are followed by an online course and a final debrief and wrap-up on August 25th. The planners are accomodating and flexible - if you'd like to attend one part and not another, do get in touch.

Contact Mala Naraine at mala.naraine@ryerson.ca or 416-979-5000 ext. 4578. The course is designed for students with a Learning Disability who are planning on attending any University or College in Ontario.